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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION No.
09/303,791	04/30/1999	RORY MATTHEW JOHNSON	G-00263/US	8861

7590 12/29/2003

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EXAMINER

GARCIA, ERNESTO

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3679

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER

ART UNIT	PAPER
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17

DATE MAILED:

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Commissioner for Patents**Election/Restrictions**

The reply filed on 11/10/03 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant's election of the boot, species I, Figure 4b, has been noted. However, the amended claims do not read on the elected boot as the boot shown in Figure 4b do not have any radially distribute apertures on the crimping lip 51 as recited in the independent claims. Figure 4b, instead, shows the boot comprising a lip 51 having one annular groove, which has no reference character. The non-elected Species II has the radial apertures being cut-outs and the Species III has the radial apertures being holes.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be bona fide, applicant is given ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ernesto Garcia whose telephone number is 703-308-8606. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:30-5:00. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynne H Browne can be reached on 703-308-1159. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9326 for regular communications and 703-872-9327 for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-2168.


Lynne H. Browne
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Technology Center 3600

E.G.
December 22, 2003